

# the ALMAGEST

SEP 07 2007

LSU SHREVEPORT

Thursday  
6 September 2007

## Security measures tighten at LSUS

by Christine Bradley

Campus police are taking the initiative and raising safety standards on campus. There are new callboxes, security cameras for populated areas and a new radar system designed to catch speeders.

There are three, new, state of the art callboxes on campus, and funds from the student safety fee are paying the costs. The batteries used in the callboxes are powered by solar energy, which uses less money than electricity. The solar panels are also still effective on the cloudiest of days. If activated, the

blue light atop the box illuminates, and campus police can easily locate a crisis situation. These callboxes are a direct link to university officers.

"A portable radio is what is installed in them," said Rebecca Childs, Chief of Police at LSUS.

According to Childs, the Virginia Tech tragedy was not the inspiration for tightened security. The idea for new callboxes was presented early last spring by Michael Ferrell, vice chancellor for Business Affairs.

"It won't necessarily improve response time; it will



One of the new callboxes is located on the mall between the Sciences Building and Bronson Hall.

improve communication," said Childs.

Security cameras are also installed in heavily-populated areas around LSUS. Some of these areas include the bookstore, the UC, the Port and the Noel Library. There is only one officer at the university that manages the system, but all officers equipped with a laptop can access a camera to monitor live activity.

Speeders should also be on the look out. Campus police officers now have specialized radar training and radar guns to more effectively catch those pushing the limit.

"My philosophy is we are as much a part of the education processes here as any other department," said Childs.

Speeders will receive a ticket and monetary fine that must be paid down at the Caddo District Court. The money from violators does not go to LSUS. Childs said she would like to change behavior on campus in hopes of a safer environment.

"We've got to protect the pedestrians. It's not about giving out tickets and making money," said Childs.

## LSUS gets half-a-million from state

by Jeremiah Raab

Thanks to a statewide budget surplus, LSUS is \$530,000 the richer.

Due in large part to the destruction of New Orleans and surrounding areas during the 2005 hurricane season, the state of Louisiana ended up with over a billion dollars in extra cash. At this year's regular state legislative session, which wrapped on June 28, every college in the state received much-needed financial boosts, including LSUS.

LSUS received \$300,000 for a future Animation Program, \$150,000 for the Center for Business Research, and \$50,000 for the Red River Radio Program, which broadcasts from the LSUS campus. \$20,000 went to the LA Prep Math & Science program, and \$10,000 went to the American Humanities Center for Non-Profit Management, bringing the total amount LSUS received to \$530,000.

Other than the \$20,000 for LSUS's La Prep Math & Science program, which was

directly appropriated to the school, the remainder of the money came through a variety of channels, including the LSUS Foundation and the Caddo Parish Commission. Because of this, the Board of Regents cannot withhold the amount LSUS received the next time state budgets are calculated, which they could do if all of the money were directly appropriated to the college.

"We'll get that money and it won't be deducted from us because it went to another agency," said Mike Ferrell,

vice chancellor of Business Affairs. "Basically, we have access to the money via those agencies...it did not increase our budget," said Ferrell.

Also, as a result of the state surplus and apart from the specific funding, LSUS is sharing in statewide faculty and staff pay raises, and received full formula funding for the first time since the mid-1980's. Formula funding is the technique used by the Louisiana Board of Regents that determines how much money will be al-

located to each college in the state in a given year. For the past twenty some-odd years, LSUS has had to pay the remainder of its excess costs out of its own pocket.

"I'm happy with the way the budget came out," said Ferrell. "We needed the funding." Because of the full funding from the state, Ferrell said, now LSUS has been able to use that extra money for other things, such as hiring new faculty, adding new programs and expanding existing programs.

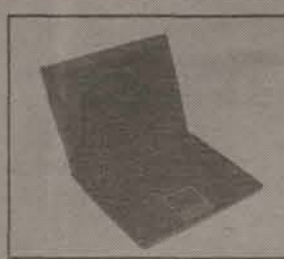
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#### Inflation

Vending prices on the rise

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#### Wi-Fi

Possibility of a wireless campus

the **Almagest**

Volume 52, Issue 1

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**Editorial Policy**

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**Letters Policy**

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## EDITORIAL

**University's anniversary means celebration, change**

by Mike Schwalke

Like it or lump it, the semester is here. I know I could already use a break. I'm trying to look on the bright side: only fifteen weeks left until the winter holidays. But I'll bet that there was something you didn't notice while you were standing in line at the Bookstore, trolling through the parking lot looking for a decent spot or pleading for some credence at the Financial Aid Office.

When LSUS opened its doors on Monday, it marked the beginning of LSUS's 40th year. Usually, a 40th birthday is marked by a black birthday cake and a card with vultures on it. But it's not like the university can go out and buy some Grecian Formula and a red sports car.

Instead, the university is planning several events in what will be a year-long celebration. Students are invited to join in. See page three of the Almagest for more information about the essay and photo contests. The deadlines were pushed back from tomorrow to Sept. 12 in order to give students more of a chance to participate. Pick up your pens and get scribbling.

And just as this year is a time of celebration and reflection, it is also a time of change. The Almagest, infused with new blood, will reflect the particular sensibilities

of the new editors, Christine Bradley and Devin White. This will mark the third aesthetic fluctuation in my tenure at the Almagest. I'm always a bit anxious when the layout torch is passed, but I'm also always pleasantly surprised.

But the biggest changes by far are the ones going on within the student media here on campus. The Almagest is now an arm of a unified student media that will, once off the ground, include broadcast and Web news, as well as print.

The news show, the LSUS Student News, is currently appearing on both the KTBS and the Shreveport Times Web sites. The first show of the semester will debut in two weeks.

As soon as we have a converged story, one with both a print and broadcast component, you will see a link to the broadcast at the end of the article.

Both the Almagest and LSUS Student News are looking for students eager to help out. Most of all, we need students who want to sell advertising for a handsome commission. Talk to Dr. Gloria Horning in BH354 for more information on how to become involved.

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"Almagest" is an Arabic word meaning "great" or "majestic." It is also the title of a book written by the ancient astronomer Ptolemy who is pictured on the front page of our paper.

# ON CAMPUS

## LSUS turns 40 years old

by Mike Schwalke

For the university's 40th anniversary, the Office of University Development is asking students to submit essays and photos for two contests. Susanah Stinson, associate vice chancellor for University Development, and Jennifer LaPierre, director of Media and Public Relations, who are administering each contest, extended the deadlines to Sept. 12.

The LSUS 40th Anniversary Essay Contest is looking for favorite memories of students past and present. Essays should not exceed 1,000 words and all submissions will be sorted by decade, one for each of the four decades since LSUS opened its doors.

The LSUS 40th Anniversary Photo Contest is broken down into three categories: Architecture or landscape, people and events. There will be a winner from each category as well as a best in show winner. The winning photos may be shown at the 40th Anniversary Celebration later this month.

Anyone interested in submitting an essay or photo should visit [www.lsus.edu/anniversary/contests.php](http://www.lsus.edu/anniversary/contests.php) for complete details.

## Dolch leaves a legacy

by Christine Bradley

After 33 years at LSUS, Norman Dolch will not return to LSUS. He served as Director of the American Humanics Program and Director of the Human Services Administration Program. The majority of his time and energy was spent working with nonprofit organizations, creating countless opportunities for internships and research.

"Basically, I do what is necessary to make them (nonprofit programs) the best programs that they can be," said Dolch.

The search continues for a replacement to take on all of Dolch's responsibility. One of Dolch's favorite memories at LSUS is having a student enroll in a class she had taken once before in her mother's womb during his first year. Others include having a former student become an associate professor and having at least two students meet his or her spouse in an introductory sociology class.



Students and faculty enjoy a Week of Welcome, the SAB's annual event which starts every fall semester with food, fun and prizes

## Student ID cards get makeover

by Mike Schwalke

A new, more colorful student ID is now available for students. The Pilot Card, as it is officially known, sports a picture of the UC and the mascot on the front. But the most impressive change is the magnetic strip on the back.

According to Joseph Pearson, director of the UC, the card now has the potential to allow students door access, vending and to make financial transactions on campus. Although none of those services are currently on campus, Pearson said that they represent the potential for things to come.

The last time the UC

changed the student ID was two years ago when the university changed from using social security numbers to a unique student number. Pearson said that the Pilot Card has been in planning for several years. Once a student gets a new pilot card, he or she will not have to get another one for the rest of their tenure at LSUS, Pearson said.

"We've already recarded at least half of the student population," he said.

Although Noel Memorial Library is still excepting the old IDs for the time being, as is the Bookstore, the Bookstore would prefer to start

seeing the new Pilot Card now that the semester has begun in earnest.

The card is free, although there is a \$15 replacement fee for lost cards. Students who have not yet gotten their Pilot Card should go to the UC offices on the second floor during normal business hours.

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## A word from your elected president

by Joe Hayes

Welcome back students! The Almagest has been kind enough to give the Student Government Association this space each week to keep you informed about what we'll be working on and throughout the year and at our next SGA meeting.

To get us started this year, I'd like to let you guys know about the projects that SGA Vice President Nicole Goad and I have been working on over the summer. Hopefully now that we've laid much of the groundwork for change around the campus, the SGA will be able to take up the cause and make the final push for students.

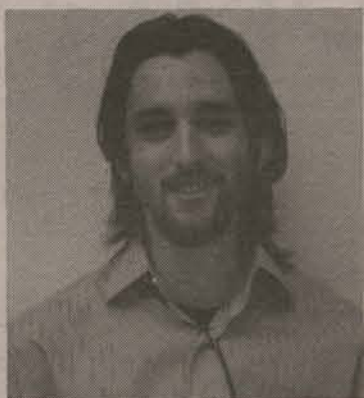
Let's talk about some of the stuff we've got going on over the next semester:

### ♦Wireless Internet

With an SGA-obtained \$27,000 donation from the LSUS Foundation and private donors, an SGA resolution calling for Wi-Fi in our common areas (The UC and the Noel Memorial Library) and university backing, we hope to have Wi-Fi in the buildings by November. Since the money was donated, you didn't even have to pay for it! The university has decided it will fund the rest of the campus so you may even see the entire Campus wireless by Christmas. I feel like this is the best example of the SGA leading the way and the university following our lead. Don't forget to thank Nicole when you see her for making this her campaign issue, and really pushing it once we were elected.

### ♦Web site blocking

Students are really frustrated at all the Web site blocking that was going on at the end of the spring semester. Fortunately, the SGA passed a resolution before the end of the semester calling for the unblocking of



Joe Hayes, SGA President

Facebook. Armed with that, we worked with Computing Services and got it done over the summer. Facebook should no longer be blocked for students. Hopefully, most of the Web site blocking will disappear in the future when we get connected to a better Internet connection.

### ♦Attendance Policy

We've examined the LSUS attendance policy over the summer and, among other things, it's incredibly outdated. It was written in 1978 and last modified in 1981. The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and the deans graciously agreed to meet with me and discuss the policy. I feel like we reached a consensus that the entire policy needed to be re-written. In addition, the deans seemed of the opinion that students may politely ask their professor to explain their reasoning behind individual attendance policies if you feel it to be exaggerated. I have requested a copy of the syllabus for each course we offer, and the SGA will be looking over them. In short, it's my belief that our current attendance policy does not allow the altering of a student's grade based on their attendance. I'll be asking the SGA to review the policy and offer an opinion before we go any further. Hopefully we can just write a new one sooner rather than later.

### ♦Financial Aid Policy

Believe it or not, LSUS as

the toughest Financial Aid policy in the state. Our "Satisfactory Academic Progress" requirements are higher than any university I could find. We'll be working with Student Affairs to update parts of the policy to bring us more in-line with other universities out there and make it more student-friendly.

Those are just a few of the things we'll be trying to work on this semester. The mascot will finally be showing up in October. We'll also be holding "SGA Days" several times out in the mall (that grassy area between buildings) during Common Hour. The idea is to feed students a bunch of free pizza and let you talk directly to

your Student Senators about things you do and don't like and don't like here at LSUS. We really need students to come out and let us know what's going on, so we can help you to make a difference and change our university for the better. See you in class.



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# University preps for wireless

by Mike Schwalke

The campus is going wireless...soon. Computing Services is currently working with consultants to hammer out the specifics of the campus-wide Wi-Fi system which will allow any student with a laptop to access the Internet from anywhere on campus. Shelby Keith, Director of Computing Services said that most of the equipment needed for the system has been ordered and is already in. He expects the system to be up and running by the end of the semester.

"It should be pretty much campus-wide," he said, but noted that there may be some dead spots.

SGA President Joseph Hayes and Vice President Nicole Goad made Wi-Fi one of their platform points in the elections last spring. According to Gloria Rianes, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Ph.D., it was Hayes' effort that secured the portion of the funding that will bring wireless to the common areas of the campus.

"That's what (the students) expressed to me—that they really wanted (Wi-Fi) and that's what I'm pushing for," Hayes said. "The university took our lead and said that they'd like to have wireless throughout the campus." Hayes and Goad were also on the Technology Fee Committee which voted

last May to fund a portion of the total cost of Wi-Fi.

"The biggest obstacle was money," said Keith, who is also the chair of the Technology Fee Committee.

Computing Services hired a consulting firm to outline the logistics of building the Wi-Fi system last fall and since then has been looking for funding.

That funding came from three sources: the Technology Fee, which contributed \$35,000 for the computer that will house the Wi-Fi system; the LSUS Foundation, which contributed \$27,000 for cable and antennae in the UC and Noel Memorial Library; and a portion from regular university funding to furnish

Wi-Fi to the rest of the buildings on campus. Hayes said that the Business and Education building already has Wi-Fi capabilities.

The money pooled together from these sources is only to implement Wi-Fi. Keith said that in the future, maintenance of the system will be provided for from regular university funding.

"I hope it's something that the students are going to enjoy," Raines said. Because of the multiple computer labs on campus available to students, she said that she hoped that students would use the Wi-Fi service once it is up and running.

# WoW kicks off semester

by Jennifer Cook

The Student Activities Board rolled out their Week of Welcome last week with plenty of free food and prizes, as well as a chance for students to have fun and make friends during their first week of class.

In the past, the week was known as Kick Off Kaos and was held during the second week of school, but only on Tuesday and Thursday. Kim Thornton, assistant director of Leadership and Involvement, said there was not simply a name change this year, but "an all new idea for a weeklong welcome."

She said that the whole reason for having WoW is "to start the year off with a bang, get students involved from the beginning of the year and to welcome new and returning students."

The event varied

throughout the week. On Monday, the LSUS Police hosted a donut breakfast. Monday was also Bingo night where more than \$500 worth of prizes were given away. Blake Evans, a senior finance major, won a \$20 gift certificate to Chili's.

"I enjoy this year's events more than last year's because there is more interaction with students and more things to do and eat," he said.

The SGA held a meet and greet on Tuesday morning. That night, Rec Sports put on an event for students to play game in the HPE building. Thornton said that about 50 students attended.

The Port sponsored a pancake breakfast on Wednesday morning and the Jazz Band played at noon. The Greek Council provided students with

snow cones to cool down with in the afternoon. Later that evening, they held Meet the Greeks, a social event to meet the fraternities and sororities on campus.

Katie Evans, The Greek Council president and vice president of Phi Mu, said, "It was a lot of fun and a great opportunity for students to ask questions and learn about each chapter."

Thursday began with a pancake breakfast in the Port, followed by a blood drive that lasted until 2 p.m. The BBQ and Fun Fair started at 10 a.m. and included free food, henna tattoos and a band. The Wacky Olympics followed with events involving water balloons and a noodle javelin. The University Court Apartments showed "Meet the Robinsons" at dark.

To conclude the week,

hypnotist the Incredible Boris, entertained a crowd of students in the UC Theater.

Thornton said to look forward to more events like this one later in the semester. Freaky Fall Fest 2007 will be the last week of October, and if all goes as planned, the new mascot will be revealed.

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The LifeShare blood mobile pulls onto campus for WoW.

# Lady pilots start season with win

by Dezi Mitchell

The LSUS Lady Pilots 2007 soccer season began with a 2-1 win against Union University from Jackson, Tenn., on Aug. 25. Eight starters from last year's team are back, including 2006 GCAC Offensive Player of the Year, Julia Vaughan and 2006 Goalkeeper of the Year, Kelsi McNew.

Along with seven new freshman, seniors Rachel Alexander and Brenna Bussart, juniors Shaderia Evans, Ty Moreno, Krystal Reilly, Kristen Schaefer, Calandre Singh, Erin Wallace and Michelle Williamson, and sophomores Jessica Aguirre and Megan Marlow form the core of the team. Bussart, Evans and Williamson were All-GCAC performers in 2006.

This year's schedule is

considered one of the most difficult in the team's history. Some of the more interesting match ups are NAIA opponent LeTourneau University out of Longview, Texas, NCAA opponent Southern University-Baton Rouge and conference rivals Belhaven College from Jackson, Miss.

The Lady Pilots are coming off their best season in program history, finishing last year 14-4, with an 8-2 conference record. LSUS won the regular season GCAC crown, before falling in the first round of the NAIA Region XIII Tournament.

Lady Pilots play LeTourneau for their first home game this Saturday,

1 p.m. at Pilot Field and Southern University-Baton Rouge on Sunday 1 p.m. at Pilot Field.



The LSUS Lady Pilots pose for a team photo. The 2007 team features eight returning starters including last year's GCAC Offensive Player of the Year, Julia Vaughan, and last year's GCAC Goalkeeper of the Year, Kelsi McNew.

## New faculty comes from overseas

by Devin White

LSUS welcomes new faculty members from all over the world this fall.

Tibor Szarvas Ph.D, the new department chair of mathematics, is a native of Hungary. He was a department chair for the last five years at San Diego Christian College. Recently, he and his wife became citizens of the U.S.

"Hungary, although a relatively small country, in terms of population, is somewhat famous for having turned out a number of very bright and productive mathematicians," said Dr. Paul Sisson, dean, college of sciences.

Another new hire by the college of sciences, Emre Celebi Ph.D, comes to us from Turkey. He is an assistant professor in com-

*"I strive for student interaction and try to keep classes entertaining and interesting."*

*Richard Peters, Ph.D.*

puter science.

Elisabeth Liebert Ph.D, assistant professor of English is from New Zealand, and graduated from the University of Otago. She is teaching courses in 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century British literature and other English courses.

The college of business and administration hired Richard Peters Ph.D, assistant professor, to teach

management. He studied at the University of West Indies and graduated with honors.

"I strive for student interaction and try to keep classes entertaining and interesting," Peters said. "I am blessed and grateful to be here and just hope to add youth and enjoyment to what is already a solid foundation."

## Students a quarter short on vending increase

by Devin White

Most students have found themselves digging in their pockets for that extra quarter this semester when trying to quench their thirst or hunger. Snacks and beverages in vending machines

across campus have increased in cost due to the higher prices in main commodities such as sugar, cocoa beans, dairy and corn. Packaging and energy costs have also increased.

"It doesn't make sense to have to pay an extra quarter just for a

soda," said Shmichael Bright, senior, general studies. "I can go to the store and pay a dollar for the same thing."

"It all has to do with raw products," said Steve Sittenauer, manager of the Port. "Everything has gone up because of fuel and

labor costs."

LSUS vending machines are stocked by Wilmore Snack Sales who are supplied by major companies such as Nestle and PepsiCo.

Students can expect to see about a 10 cent increase in candy and

chips, and a 25 cent increase in sodas.

For struggling college students every cent counts. "Paying an extra quarter is going to break me," said Joe Kyle Thomas, senior, history.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Kevin Bacon punctuates 'Sentence'

by Chris Gray

Let me start my first review of the semester by welcoming everyone back to school and I hope you will all have as much fun reading my column as I have writing it. When I sat down to write this review I was going to review Rob Zombie's "Halloween" but I saw another film that I feel is more noteworthy than the classic horror re-make.

"Death Sentence" starring Kevin Bacon, Garrett Hedlund, and John Goodman is one of the most character-driven, intense, well written and well acted films I have seen over the course of the summer movie season. The film was based on the book "Death Sentence" by Brian Garfield and was the sequel to the novel "Death Wish" which was also turned into a film in the early 1970s.

Bacon ("Stir of Echoes," "Wild Things") gives the best performance of his acting career in this film. He

shows the audience that he can actually act and isn't just an actor from 1980s horror flicks that likes to do full frontal shots in his films. Bacon plays Nick Hume, a successful businessman with a loving family and perfect life until one fateful night his whole world changes when his son is killed. Bacon goes from one extreme of the emotional spectrum to the next throughout the film. His sadness was infinite. In the scenes after losing his son there are moments where I heard people blowing their noses in the seats behind me. I will admit that I even became a little choked up. His anger and hatred was so believable that I cringed at his dialog when he spoke to the men who robbed him of his life. Bacon is finally able to show the film community he is an actor and not a has-been with this film.

Hedlund ("Troy," "Four Brothers") portrays Billy Darley, the sinister leader of the gang who wronged

Hume. This man is a great actor. I have seen his roles in other films but none of them were as well acted as this one. He showed that he truly

*"It's John Goodman!  
That's about the only  
thing he had going  
for him."*

Chris Gray  
Movie critic

has what it takes to capture emotion and the essence of the scene not only with his body language, but with his ability to manipulate dialog in a way that forces the audience to grasp on to every word.

Goodman ("The Big Lebowski," "C.H.U.D."), who is primarily known for his voice acting in animated films and his television role

on the show "Roseanne," was decent in the film but I don't think he helped the movie in anyway. He plays the role of Billy Darley's father and is seen on camera for a total of five minutes throughout the film. When he was on camera he didn't accentuate the scene in any way except that I said to myself, "Oh hey look! It's John Goodman!" That's about the only thing he had going for him.

Not only was the acting superb by the two main characters, but that acting had to be directed by someone and that man's name is James Wan ("Saw," "Dead Silence"). He is primarily known for his sick and twisted horror films that push the boundaries of human stomachs everywhere, but with this film he steps away from that genre completely and shows that he is not just a horror movie director. He shows that he can direct things that don't just involve reverse bear trap masks and

razor wire prisons. He uses diverse camera angles and cinematography. All of the camera work was smooth; I could tell what was happening in the frame and every scene transitioned into another, progressing the film at a steady pace rather than making it longer. Wan's true claim to fame in this film was the way he could get the emotion and the meat and potatoes of a scene from his talent. Every scene was believable and kept the tensions high.

There is no need to talk about the special effects because there were not any except for CGI blood and bullet wounds here and there. They looked good, but they were not necessary to engulf me in this film. It was the story, acting and development of characters and plot that sealed the deal for me.

"Death Sentence" is a must see for anyone who likes movies.

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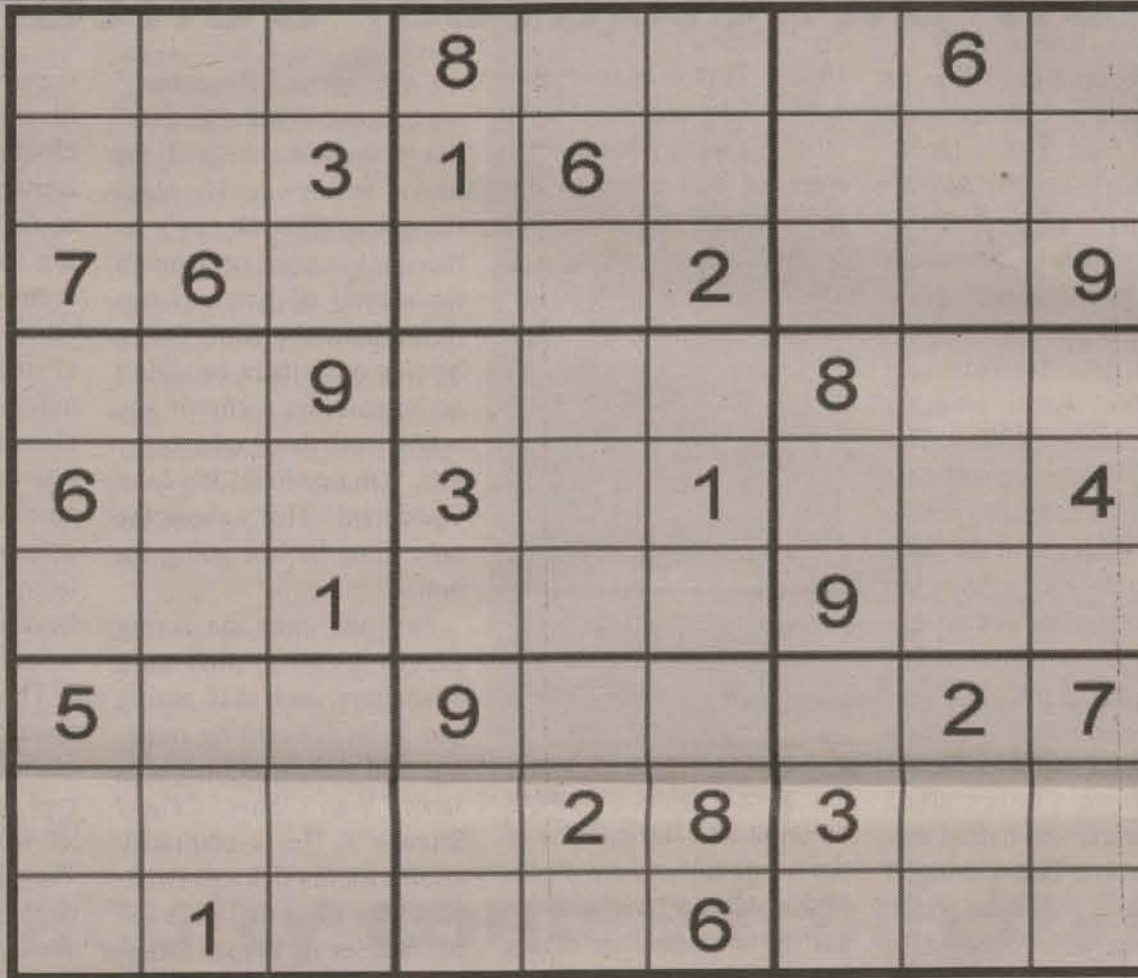
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# LEISURE



## SAB Schedule

### September 6

- ♦ "Don't Run on Empty"
- presented by Elaine Penn

UC Theater; 7 p.m.

### September 13

- ♦ Ultimate Family Night

UC Mall; 6 p.m.

### September 17

- ♦ Constitution Day

Celebration Speaker

UC Theater; 9 a.m.

### September 18

- ♦ LSUS vs. Alcorn State

LSUS Soccer Field; 3 p.m.

- ♦ CoffeeHouse series presents

Shevy Smith

UC Port Stage; 10:30 a.m.

### September 20

- ♦ Movie Night presents

Premonition

UC mall; dark

### September 25

- ♦ LSUS Jazz Band 40th

anniversary celebration

UC first floor; 10:30 a.m.

Bert Stroud, the Anthropologist

By: Mike Schwalke and Diego Tripodi

